

# A CASE OF INFECTION WITH *LAGOCHEILASCARIS MINOR* (LEIPER)

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Patient male, *act.* 16, a native of Trinidad, always resident in the southern part of the island opposite the mainland of South America, was admitted to hospital on 4th August, 1924, with the following history. About three months previously he felt a hard, painless but slightly tender lump, size of a pea, near the angle of his *right* jaw. The lump increased to the size of a walnut and formed a small area of suppuration from which there escaped a yellowish-white purulent material. Two weeks later his *right* eye began to pain, it became congested and inflamed and a purulent discharge appeared.

When admitted to hospital there was seen a hard, painless, uniformly smooth tumour about the size of a tangerine, movable from side to side, below the angle of the right jaw, having a ragged, foul, sloughing, unhealthy ulcer, about the size of a shilling, in its centre, and showing a sharp irregular margin with four well-marked sinuses from which there escaped, on pressure, a thin purulent exudate containing numerous small worms 3 to 4 mm. long. The right eye showed a purulent conjunctivitis and iritis with considerable chemosis.

In spite of energetic treatment a severe panophthalmitis resulted, necessitating enucleation of the eye ten days later (14th). On the 21st the tumour mass was still hard and discharging, on pressure, matted coils of very actively moving worms.

On the 23rd, patient complained of pain in his *right* tonsil, which was congested and enlarged, showing some dirty yellow masses in its crypts. A swab taken for Klebs Löffler B. proved negative.

On 3rd September he complained of dyspnoea and examination of the heart revealed only an accentuated aortic second sound. Lungs were normal. On the 5th, under chloroform, the whole

tumour mass was removed, together with the enlarged glands in its immediate neighbourhood.

The resulting wound and the cavity of the empty orbit healed normally but his right tonsil, which had not subsided in size, became more painful on the 14th, and in spite of local treatment was seen, on the 22nd, to be very enlarged and ulcerated, with a foul sloughing surface. On the 26th, under chloroform, the tonsil was removed and showed itself practically a sac of pus containing, embedded in its substance, worms similar in appearance to those found in the cervical tumour. On the 6th October patient was discharged from hospital, well.

Specimens of the worms obtained from the tumour mass and the tonsil, transmitted to Professor Leiper, of the London School of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, were identified as *Lagocheilascaris minor*, first described by him, in 1909, as occurring in cutaneous abscesses, in Trinidad, and since found, also by him, among specimens received from Dutch Guiana, in South America.